

SNOHOMISH COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE INVESTIGATIVE CHECKLIST

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF PAYMENT INSTRUMENTS

RCW 9A.56.320

ELEMENTS

1. The suspect possessed two or more checks or other payment instruments, alone or in combination; AND

2a. The payment instruments were in the name of a person or entity, or with the routing number or account number of a person or entity, without the permission of the person or entity to possess such payment instrument; AND

2b. The suspect intended either to deprive the person of possession of such payment instrument or to commit theft, forgery, or identity theft;

OR

2a. The payment instruments were in the name of a fictitious person or entity, or with a fictitious routing number or account number of a person or entity; AND

2b. The suspect intended to use the payment instruments to commit theft, forgery, or identity theft.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- [] 1. Seize the two or more payment instruments, and related items such as check-making equipment, blank check stock, printed checks, stolen mail, forged checks, personal identification cards, etc. Photograph evidence items where found, and note specific location where found in your report. Include photocopies of a sufficient number of these items in your report to establish the fraudulent purpose of the possession.
- [] 2. A copy of the payment instruments, front and back.
- [] 3. Determine who had access to the payment instruments, and document that, for example, by seizing papers of occupancy/ownership for the building/vehicle were found; obtaining witness statements; latent prints; etc. If payment instruments are located in a bedroom, seize sample clothing items in bedroom to establish sex/size of bedroom occupants.
- [] 4. Copy of police reports regarding the theft of any payment instruments, mail, or identification cards found with the payment instruments.
- [] 5. Obtain from suspect, if possible, as much detailed information as you can regarding how he obtained the instruments, whether the suspect knew they were forged or stolen, what the suspect intended to use the payment instruments for, how the suspect obtained any stolen items seized, who forged the payment instruments, if any are forged, etc. Provable lies are as worthy as admissions.

- [] 6. If victim is a real person, obtain statement. If the payment instrument contains fictitious personal identifiers, obtain a statement from the bank that the name, account or routing number does not exist.
- [] 7. If the victim is a fictitious person, evidence to show how you determined that (i.e. DOL document, etc.)
- [] 8. If computer equipment seized, search computer (pursuant to a search warrant) for evidence of fraudulent scheme.